Leaf Roller Pest.

391. ❋MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) in what all places in the State, the cocoanut trees are affected by the leaf roller pest;

(*b*) when the outbreak of the pest was first discovered; and

(*c*) what the Department of Agriculture has done in the matter?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) Practically all over the coastal regions from Quilon to Shertallai.

(*b*) The first occurrence of the pest was reported in 1918.

(*c*) The Department has been advising owners of affected gardens to cut and burn the affected leaves, wherever the pest assumed epidemic proportions. In other places the liberation of the Eulophid parasites, to control the pest, has been demonstrated and the parasites are being supplied to the applicants in large numbers.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know whether the pest is under control?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes, it is under control.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know how the department is able to spot out the parasites?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The department is working in close collaboration with the Research Department and till now about ten lakhs of parasites have been released.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANAN PILLAI: May I know whether by the liberation of the parasites the trouble can be put an end to?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes, the trouble can be brought under control by the liberation of the parasites.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know the names of places where they have been released?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Neendakara, Shertallai, Vaikom, Thanneermukkom, Ambalapuzha, etc.

Plywood Factory.

392. ❋MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the plywood factory has begun to work; and

(*b*) the expected profit out of it per year for the next five years?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATASWARA AIYAR: (*a*) No.

(*b*) The expected dividends have been estimated to be about $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Rubber Factory.

393. ❋MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the articles manufactured in the Rubber Factory at Trivandrum; and

(*b*) whether the articles manufactured are available for sale in Travancore?

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